

What: The Georgia Wireless Classroom Project is a state funded pilot project providing Internet-based instruction and wireless laptop computers to each teacher and student in selected middle schools. Five thousand teachers and students will receive laptop computers through the project, which began fall 2001.

Who: Eight middle schools have been chosen for the pilot, based on academic need. They are from various regions in Georgia and include:

- Early County Middle School, Blakely
- Henderson Middle School, Jackson
- Hilsman Middle School, Athens
- Louisville Middle School, Louisville
- Marshall Middle School, Columbus
- Rossville Middle School, Rossville
- Treutlen Middle School, Soperton
- W.L. Parks Middle School, Atlanta

Purpose: The purpose of the project is to enhance teaching and learning through the use of technology, with the specific goal of improving student performance and test scores.

Funding: The pilot is supported by \$10 million over three years from lottery funds.

Participants in the project

Georgia Technology Authority (GTA) – Developed the request for proposal and is overseeing the project

Student Data Research Center (SDRC) – Selected the schools and is designing evaluation criteria

NetSchools Corporation – Selected to manage the project, including installing the wireless networks; providing professional development for teachers and administrators; and providing lesson plan content, software correlated to Georgia's Quality Core Curriculum and online assessment of student performance

Apple, Inc. – Laptop vendor for Rossville Middle School

AT&T – The Internet Service Provider and provider of web-hosting services

Enterasys Networks – The wireless network infrastructure provider

Gateway – Laptop vendor for seven middle schools

Hewlett-Packard – Providing servers, hubs, printers and other hardware networking devices

InfoCase – Providing protective laptop cases to withstand daily wear and tear